

cotton, corn, soybeans, livestock, and vegetables. His livestock consisted of 30 to 40 cows and 50–100 hogs. In 1957 they purchased their first piece of land and moved away from the family owned land and farm, “Wheeler Farm.”

Primus along-side his wife grew their farm to 100 acres, which is still located in the Sharkey Road community between Glendora and Tippo, MS. He remembers his first crop in 1957 as his worst but just as he was taught and had seen by working with his father on the family farm, “you take the good with the bad and learn from it but keep going to break through. You just have to make more good crops than bad crops in order to survive.”

He was dealing with bad weather and insects. Over time Primus got better being on his own even increasing the farm from the initial 100 acres to 238 acres at one point then up to 800 acres by renting from local retired farmers. He was able to supplement his income by harvesting cotton and soybeans for other farmers.

Primus Wheeler, like so many black farmers had challenges that would test the soul and belief of any man.

Over the years he dealt with challenges like bad seasons in terms of weather, insects, and certainly government financing for black farmers. For example, he said, more times than not, that he had to lean on hope and prayer that FSA would approve his applications for financing, which often times came in late July or early August. These were emotional and unpredictable times; especially seeing the other farmers planting while he was faces the pitfall of FSA. You see, he relied on this money to purchase seeds and fertilizers. But nevertheless, he withstood them all relying on his father’s teachings.

So, through it all, Primus and his wife was able to educate 9 children on their small delta farm and unlike him, not one of his children had to skip or quit school to stay home and help work the farm. Primus retired and turned the farm over to his son, Michael, who ran it until the late 1990s. Afterwards, Primus, Jr. gained control of the farm and still runs it today. However, in all cases, Primus himself is still involved in the decision making of the farm advising and mentoring his son and future generations. Hat’s off to Mr. Primus Wheeler for hanging in there and maintaining his farm.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring, Mr. Primus Wheeler, a black farmer from the Mississippi Second Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, January 7, I was unavoidably detained due to inclement weather. Had I been here for the quorum call (rollcall No. 1), I would have voted “present.”

RETIREMENT OF CHARLES TRAUGHBER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor one of Tennessee’s hardest working and most thoughtful public servants on the occasion of his retirement.

Charles Traughber stepped down recently after a 30-year career as Chairman of the Tennessee Board of Probation and Parole.

Before assuming that role, he spent 10 years working with offenders as a prison counselor and as a charter member of the parole board.

During his 40-year career, Chairman Traughber served the people of Tennessee with great honor and distinction and always approached each case with the gravity and seriousness it deserved.

I was a criminal court judge in Knoxville for seven-and-a-half years, and during that time I issued thousands of criminal sentences.

There may be no tougher job—with greater potential consequence—than evaluating whether or not a prisoner is ready to re-enter society, and I cannot think of a better person to have had in this role than Chairman Traughber.

During his remarkable career, Chairman Traughber reviewed and voted on more than 145,000 cases.

The most infamous person to come before his board was James Earl Ray, who assassinated the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Chairman Traughber said Ray was denied parole because of the “seriousness of the offense.”

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to join me in celebrating the exceptional career of a very patriotic American, Charles Traughber. Our Nation is a better place because of his service.

TRIBUTE TO EDNA LOUISE FLINT HOUSE

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation.

Whereas, one hundred years ago a virtuous woman of God, Edna Louise Flint House was born in Decatur, Georgia on December 7, 1913 to John and Louise Flint; and

Whereas, she was raised up in DeKalb County, Georgia and married Mr. Jesse House and their union has blessed our district and nation ever since; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a wife, mother and motivator, becoming a Georgia citizen of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all by always advancing the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. House has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; she serves as a Mother at New Beginning Full Gospel Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, Mrs. House along with her pastor, Bishop James H. Morton, her family and friends are celebrating a remarkable milestone, her 100th Birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. House on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all; Now therefore, I, HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim December 7, 2013 as Mrs. Edna Louise Flint House Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 7th day of December, 2013.

HONORING THE SMOKEHOUSE GRILL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a budding Minority Business in the Mississippi Delta, The Smokehouse Grill in Marks, MS.

On January 19, 1971, L.C. and Velma Pride welcomed a bouncing baby boy they named Paul Andrew. Paul was the youngest of the eight Pride children. Paul attended Quitman County School District where he received his high school diploma in 1989.

Paul furthered his education at Northwest Community College in 1990 majoring in Computer Programming. He became employed at Sunflower Grocery Store in Senatobia, MS for his first job. He worked there for two years where he learned to become an independent man he is today. He later moved on to a better opportunity at Mood Automotive for eight years where he gained a lot of friends, experience, and skills to be an example for others to follow.

Paul purchased his first home in Marks, MS at the age of 21. It was a huge accomplishment that he was extremely proud of. He later began driving trucks for Ozark Motor Lines where he worked two years. During this time, his daughter, the most beautiful girl, was born on April 14, 2002 and he named her, Japarian Marie Pride. Japarian is now an intelligent, outgoing 11 years old who attends South Panola Schools.

Driving through Marks, MS in March of 2002, Paul had a taste for barbeque rib tips, but there was no “Rib Shack” in Marks. Paul came up with the idea to open a rib shack. “I asked God to show me the way,” stated Paul and two months later, the doors of Paul Pride’s Smokehouse were opened. Smokehouse, as it is commonly called, has been selling rib tips, chopped barbeque, ribs, wings, and fish ever since.

Smokehouse is located at 1075 Martin Luther King Dr. in Marks, MS. Paul stated, “We have a great location here and we are located in an industrial area on Main St. Since opening, Smokehouse has saturated Quitman, Panola, Coahoma, and Tallahatchie counties.” Being from Marks, Paul is no stranger to the area. His father was a part of the Marks Police Department for 40 years. Paul’s roots run